



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2009

## MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

### CITY SETS PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON WATER ALLOCATIONS

#### *San Diegans Invited to Provide Input and Comments Regarding Development of Methodology for Cutting Allocations*

At the direction of Mayor Jerry Sanders, the City of San Diego Water Department has scheduled a series of workshops to help prepare the public for ***potential cuts to water supplies***. The Department is staging the workshops to discuss and take input on how water allocations for City water customers are being developed. The workshops are part of the Mayor's continuing effort to raise awareness about the City's water supply crisis and the need to increase water conservation throughout the city.

The Mayor has called the workshop sessions following his announcement during the annual State of the City Address, delivered earlier this month, that water wholesalers may cut supplies to the San Diego region by as much as 20% within the next few months. A reduction of that amount could require the City to implement limits on the amount of water that can be used by its own customers. The workshops called by the Mayor will provide San Diegans with the opportunity to learn more and to have their questions about the development of the methodology for water allocations answered by City staff.

The workshops are scheduled at the following dates and locations:

**Monday, February 9, 2009, 6 - 7:30 pm**

Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch Library  
3003 Coronado Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92154-1521

**Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 6 – 7:30 pm**

Rancho Peñasquitos Branch Library  
13330 Salmon River Road  
San Diego, CA 92129-2640

**Thursday, February 12, 2009, 6 -7:30 pm**

Balboa Park - War Memorial Building, Rm. 3  
2125 Park Blvd.

**STAFF WILL DISCUSS METHODOLOGY AND RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT**

Each of the allocation workshops will begin with a presentation by City Water Department staff. Staff will describe the City's effort to prepare for anticipated cuts to the region's water supply coming as a result of continuing drought and restrictions on pumping water from the Sacramento Delta.

The workshops will also include time for addressing questions about the water allocation methodology being developed by the City. Staff will take input from the public and will describe how allocation measures will be designed to *provide a fair and equitable model* for limiting water use by City customers.

**WATER CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES ALSO ON THE AGENDA**

Staff will also be available to address questions and concerns about the City's ongoing water conservation efforts. *The Mayor has called on everyone in San Diego to reduce their water consumption by 20 gallons per day.* Meeting that goal could help the City avoid or delay mandatory conservation requirements.

In addition, staff will be able to address questions about the Emergency Water Regulations recently adopted by the City. Those regulations, including permanent year-round prohibitions on water waste, went into affect on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month.

**NEW CITY WEBSITE OFFERS A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT WATER REGULATIONS**

Working in advance of the need to implement water allocations, Mayor Sanders has unveiled a new City website offering a comprehensive look at water regulations and conditions affecting the City. The new site offers complete access to the Emergency Water Regulations governing the use of water by City customers. In addition to many other features, the new site offers a clear graphic indicator of current water supply conditions in the City. There are also links to conservation tips and information about incentives for water efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures included on the site.

The new site can be found at [www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/drought/index.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/drought/index.shtml).

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